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the gay weekly for the northeast

25¢

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The Other Side (left), one of the controversial Bay Village bars, and its manager, Gary Dotterman.



Photos by Jane Picard and Martha Adams.

ABCC Backs Varas

Battle of the Bars Goes On

by Joe Beckman

BOSTON — By a two to one vote the state's Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) overruled the Boston Licensing Board and indefinitely extended the life of The Other Side and Jacques, two controversial Bay Village bars. Reaction in the gay community, city and state agencies, and the Bay Village area has been swift and mixed. The mayor has asked for a new decision by the local board to set an early closing hour and, even with such a judgment, there will be appeals.

The majority decision was characterized as an "outrage," by Representative Barney Frank (D-Boston); "outrageous" by Ken Phillips, co-president of the Bay Village Association; "suspicious" by Representative Elaine Noble (D-Boston); and an "usurpation of home rule" by Gary Sugarman, assistant press secretary to Governor Dukakis.

Commissioner Vernon R. Farnsworth's majority decision found violence unrelated to the bars, control of drugs and under-age patrons adequate, traffic, parking and closing noise "within reasonable limits," and "no public need for a decrease in the hours of operation . . ." Farnsworth cleared the bars of all legal barriers to remain open, and strongly suggested that the city has no authority to limit their hours.

Commissioner Farnsworth made no mention of the sexual preferences of the bars' patrons, although the commissioner did mention that the location of the bars — "in a single, unified entertainment area" — had a long history of providing "adult entertainment." In supporting Farnsworth, Commissioner A. Ernest Zangrilli listed a number of earlier "gay club" bars in the vicinity, and mentioned that "people who moved into this area . . . certainly were aware of the existence of these two nightclubs . . ."

The majority decision has impact on two levels. First, there has been continued debate among gay groups and between gay and straight community organizations about the quality of the bars themselves. Elaine Noble, for example, called for "safe and honest entertainment," and noted that these bars have not had such a history. Michael DeMarco, the attorney for the police department, cited other gay bars as well managed and a credit to the city. In contrast, Gary Dotterman and the rest of the management of The Other Side, argued that the bars have been harassed by police, neighborhood groups, and other organizations, primarily because of the anti-gay sentiment in the city.

Although the majority decision does

not stress the sexual preference of the bars' patrons, the minority and dissenting opinion — to close the bars — does. The Commission's chairman, Edward Harrington, used two arguments in calling for the bars' closing. Home rule — the support of the local licensing board, and the limit to the state commission's authority — was one of his arguments against the bars. The Boston Licensing Board had provided a "compromise" in allowing the bars to keep their licenses, on condition that they move on or before Jan. 1, 1976. In supporting the Boston Board, and dissenting from other members of the state commission, Harrington credited such a solution as a "gratuitous gesture of compromise."

It is Harrington's second argument which has raised serious issues. The commissioner listed the patrons of the bars as "overt homosexuals, male and female prostitutes, transvestites, exhibitionists, and other 'exotics'." These patrons, he argued, "attract thieves, drug users, pushers, ruffians, rowdies and voyeurs to their social nether world."

Even more than the majority opinion, more than their major opponents, it was this dissent which gave substance to the bars' management's contention that moves against them were against gay people in general. Gay organizations and leaders against the bars found themselves an improbable ally in Harrington. Rep. Noble noted that "Mr. Harrington came to the right conclusion from the worst of all directions." She argued that "we should not switch levels of discourse between safety and freedom, which are both rights for all citizens regardless of sexual preference."

Rep. Frank, in whose district the bars operate, found Harrington's rhetoric "unfortunate" and the characterization of bar patrons "totally irrelevant and gratuitous." Even the Bay Village Neighborhood Association, which initiated the case against the bars, found the wording of Harrington's dissent "a little overbearing." Dotterman, and other bar managers, termed the Harrington argument "fascistic" and "Klan-like."

The Boston Licensing Board will review the majority decision in mid-November. Given the attacks on that decision, and a minority dissent which leaves no one quite satisfied, the case is not closed. Attorney DeMarco and Mayor White, supported by the representatives and the neighborhood association, will press for an earlier closing hour, which would, in effect, close the bars all together. The clubs will cite the majority decision, which states that

(Continued on page 7)

Will Weigh Constitutionality

Judge Gesell Sets Matlovich Hearing

WASHINGTON — U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell, remembered for his prominent role in the Watergate investigation, has agreed to rule on the constitutionality of the U.S. military's automatic right to discharge gay people. Gesell announced his decision at the same time as he denied T/Sgt. Leonard Matlovich's request that he block the sergeant's ouster from the Air Force. Gesell said that previous decisions by the courts made it impossible to grant the restraining

order requested by Matlovich.

The judge set aside Nov. 3 as the date to rule on whether he should grant a preliminary injunction against the Air Force on behalf of Matlovich and whether Matlovich's discharge is Constitutional. The judge made it clear that he sees the Matlovich case as a "test case" and the proper place to examine the military's prohibitions on gay people.

The Matlovich forces were very pleased with the announcement that Gesell would hear the case. "We're delighted that it got assigned to Gesell," Frank Kameny, long-time gay activist, told GCN. Kameny sees Gesell as a "fairly liberal judge," and emphasized that Gesell has set forth a "whole series of points and issues the the Air Force must address itself to."

According to the Associated Press, Gesell said that the case "involves a man of exceptional qualifications for the military, a man who has served his country well in both peace and war." The judge was also critical of the Air Force because "it was proceeding by the book when possibly a more compassionate approach could be taken." He also rejected military demands that the Air Force handle the case by asking, "What about the human factor?" Gesell said that to make Matlovich wait for two years would be a mistake.

Judge Gesell's decision, when it takes place, will not necessarily be the final one. The Matlovich forces have made it clear that they will appeal Gesell's decision if it goes against them and it is expected that the Air Force will do the same.

NOTICE



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news notes

AIRMAN "COMES OUT"

HAMPTON, Va. — Another gay airman at Langley Air Force Base has "come out" and told his commanding officer of his sexual orientation. Sgt. Richard Hicks of Houston, 22, announced that he would challenge the Air Force's right to discharge homosexuals simply because they are gay. Langley is the same air force base where Sgt. Leonard Matlovich served before his discharge.

ZELDA'S HOURS CHANGE

NORTHAMPTON — Zelda's will function as an all-women's bar only on Wednesday nights from 9:30 to 1 a.m. The bar is no longer functioning as all-women on Sunday evenings as it has in the past. The bar is located on Masonic Street in Northampton.

GAY THEATRE

NEW YORK — TOSOS (The Other Side of Silence) is now seeking new plays, musical revues, poetry readings, art and photo exhibitions, films, and other creative work for presentation at their off-off-Broadway theatre in SoHo.

TOSOS was started by Doric Wilson and Peter del Valle as a workshop "dedicated to an open and honest exploration of the many expressions of the gay life style." TOSOS has a main stage, which is seeking full-length theatre pieces, and a workshop series which is open to shorter plays, readings, revues, and films. Art and photo exhibitions are coordinated to accompany other productions. TOSOS is especially looking to increase the number of offerings by women.

Writers and artists are invited to submit their material or address inquiries to Doric Wilson, 115 Bedford St., basement, New York, N.Y. 10014 or John Glines, 28 Willow St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.



Heart-shaped Leaf.

SHAPP OFFICIAL

PROVINCETOWN — Bill Damon, gay activist, Providence businessperson, and occasional GCN contributor, has been named to head the Massachusetts State Committee to Elect Milton Shapp President. Damon is believed to be the first openly gay person to be the head of a state committee for a presidential candidate.

Shapp, who is presently governor of Pennsylvania, will enter the March 2 Massachusetts presidential primary. He announced his candidacy about a month ago but is not considered to be a major contender at this time.

While governor of Pennsylvania, Shapp issued his now-famous executive order banning discrimination against gay people. Damon explained his decision to take an active role for Shapp by saying "That while a lot of politicians are giving lip service to the gay community, Milton Shapp is the only one who has done anything for us."

L.A. CHIEF GIVES IN

LOS ANGELES — The nation's most vocally homophobic police chief indicated last week that he would abide by a Civil Service Commission ruling and allow gays to serve on the Los Angeles police force. Chief Ed Davis agreed to a "compromise" which would enable gays to join the force as long as they didn't engage in homosexual conduct in public.

Davis' decision came after the city's Civil Service Commission voted 3-0 that the L.A. Police Department may not discriminate against gay people. Although Chief Davis resisted the order at first, the recommendation that "sexual conduct in private between consenting adults shall not, in and of itself, be disqualifying," was binding.

According to *The New York Times*, Davis was "satisfied" with the compromise. Gay activists felt, on the other hand, that the qualifications were not significant and that the way was now clear for gay people to serve on the police force of the nation's third largest city.



Labyrinthodon (restored).

NEW YORK REVELATIONS

By Tony Russo

NEW YORK — Resignation and elections seemed the theme this week. Leon Heath of Gay and Women's Alliance for Responsible Media (GWARMA) resigned as president of the group. At the anticipation of his resignation, Paul Bert resigned as vice president. Robin Souza, secretary-treasurer of GWARMA, is the only remaining officer. For Souza this is his second time in this situation.

The Gay Academic Union also went through some changes this week. Alana Collos, Louise Crawford and Ann Gregory were added to the list of Steering Committee members. The other members are: Joanna Asperger, Wayne Dynes, Richard Sakes, Kate Salen, Edward Strugg, Michael White, and myself. Power within the group is divided equally between the women and the men with Steering Committee members and spokespeople representing both caucuses. Presently, I am the spokesperson for the Men's Caucus. The Women's Caucus will soon be electing their spokesperson.

Gay People at Columbia also had office changes this week. Filling my resignation a vice-chairperson, Andy Barron was elected. Also, filling the office of secretary vacated by Arnold Rowan was Richard Shur.

Gay People at Columbia announced that they will be having their first off-campus dance on Friday, Nov. 7 at the "Galaxy 21." The nine year old organization will be having the dance off campus due to reconstruction work being done on their usual Earl Hall site.

New York State Coalition of Gay Organizations (NYSCGO) is working on the Democratic National Convention. At a NYSCGO convention three

WILDE-STEIN DANCES

ORONO, Me. — The Wilde-Stein Club will sponsor a gay costume dance at the Maine Christian Association Center on College Avenue in Orono on Nov. 8 at 8 p.m. Admission is a dollar and you may bring your own bottle.



Chimera. — Lycian terra-cotta, British Museum.

GAYS IN NSCAR

BOSTON — In the aftermath of the NSCAR Conference held in Boston Columbus Day weekend, the Gay Participation Committee of the National Student Coalition Against Racism is functioning out of the NSCAR office in Dorchester. Anyone interested in the committee and its work should write them c/o NSCAR, 620 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester. The phone number is 288-6200.

OTHER VOICES TALKS

BOSTON — Other Voices Bookstore now has a telephone, 426-0412. The gay owned and operated store is located at 30 Bromfield St. in Boston and is now accepting mail orders.

JOAN LITTLE SPEAKS

BOSTON — Joan Little, who recently won her nationally publicized case in North Carolina, will be speaking at Boston's Northeastern University Auditorium on Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. The appearance is Little's first speaking appearance in the Northeast since she was acquitted.

Appearing with Little will be Attica Brother Akil and Sekou Lumpem from the Atmore-Holmans Legal Defense Committee. In addition, the highly praised film *Attica* will be shown.



MAINE LINE

by S. W. Henderson

THOMASTON — Two gay prisoners at the Maine State Prison have expressed interest in forming a gay group there. The purpose of the group will be to provide mutual support for the members, give gay prisoners a chance to associate with other gays, and to work for equal treatment for gay prisoners. The organization would also try to help members in dealing positively with being gay in a predominantly non-gay society, both in and out of prison. The Maine Gay Task Force has been contacted, and several members are prepared to assist in the project.



PORTLAND-GORHAM — A gay group has formed on the campus of the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham. Meetings are Thursday nights at 7:30 in the Student Union on the Portland campus. A dance is being planned for the near future. Also the group needs a home — suggestions are welcome.

Noble Joins Bayh Bandwagon

By David Brill

BOSTON — State Representative Elaine Noble (D-Boston) last week announced her endorsement of Indiana Sen. Birch Bayh for the 1976 Democratic presidential nomination. Noble said she had been "thinking about it [endorsing Bayh] for about two weeks" and made the decision in time to join 13 other state legislators in making the announcement at a State House press conference last week.

Joining Noble in making the endorsement were Rep. Thomas Brownell of Quincy, Doris Bunte of Roxbury, Kevin Burke of Beverly, Philip Filosa of Wrentham, Bernard Flynn of Amesbury, Mary Goode of Roxbury, Daniel Henderson of Hull, Philip Johnston of Marshfield, Richard McGrath of Newton, Paul Means of Stoneham, Elizabeth Metayer of Braintree, James Segel, and David Schwartz of Haverhill. All but Henderson have consistently backed all gay rights legislation in the House.

Noble indicated that former Oklahoma Sen. Fred Harris was her first choice but she felt that he was "not in a position to pull it together in a serious way" nor was he electable. Rep. Bunte, who also called Harris her first choice on Sept. 27 at the Northeast Democratic Conference in Springfield, indicated similar reservations about the Oklahoma Senator.

Ann Lewis, an early worker and contributor to Noble's 1974 election effort who is now Bayh's deputy national campaign director, was of "tremendous influence" to the Fenway representative in making up her mind. Lewis, a former aide to Boston Mayor Kevin White who is often dispatched

by the mayor to work on out-of-town campaigns, is presently opposing her brother, state Rep. Barney Frank (D-Boston), who was an early backer of U.S. Rep. Morris K. Udall of Arizona.

Noble called Udall "too gentlemanly" and expressed fears that he would backtrack on the issues in much the same way that George McGovern did in 1972.

Bayh was "extremely positive to me," Noble said, "on the issue of gay rights. He would certainly sign and speak out for Bella's bill (HR 5452, the federal gay rights bill)." Asked about his refusal to discuss becoming the lead Senate sponsor of the legislation, Noble asserted that the senator "was unaware" of the need for a lead sponsor, and that "there is a good chance of his sponsoring it."

Bayh has encountered major liberal opposition of late due to his early co-sponsorship of S.1, federal legislation that would completely revise the Federal Criminal Code to make changes that have been vehemently attacked by civil libertarians. (Bayh recently had his name removed from the bill as a co-sponsor.) Asked whether his withdrawal from the legislation was not itself an admission of error, Noble said, "Of course it's an admission of error, but can't he make mistakes?" All other major Democratic candidates have vigorously denounced S.1 as an outrageous affront to civil liberties.

"He has guts and I like his substantive quality," said Noble, whose endorsement Harris and Udall had also been actively seeking for five months.

'Born Innocent' Campaign On

BOSTON — A massive national campaign is underway against NBC-TV and the sponsors of "Born Innocent." The television show, aired last Saturday (Oct. 25) as NBC's Saturday Night at the Movies, has been characterized as a "brutal and stereotypical portrait" of lesbians by Boston's Gay Media Action. "Born Innocent," which was shown last year, was edited to leave out the inflammatory homosexual rape of Linda ("Exorcist") Blair in this year's edition, apparently to assuage gay sensibilities.

As soon as it was revealed that the new version of "Born Innocent" was to be shown again, gay activists throughout the nation swung into action. In Boston, Gay Media Action demanded and got a pre-screening of the program and an hour-long meeting with WBZ Manager Sy Yanoff and the station's program manager, Jeff Schiffman. The meeting, though cordial, did not produce the necessary results.

"I would have expected WBZ to respond in a more sensitive manner," said Ellen B. Davis, GMA chairperson. Gay Media Action criticized WBZ for its "patriarchal condescension" and strongly urged Boston gays to jam the phone lines at the station immediately and demand to speak to Yanoff, Schiffman, and John Pike, executive producer.

In New York, picketing began in front of the offices of Pfizer, Inc., one of the sponsors of the show. In Philadelphia, gay activists were refused a showing by the local NBC affiliate but the station mysteriously changed its GCN, November 1, 1975 • Page 3

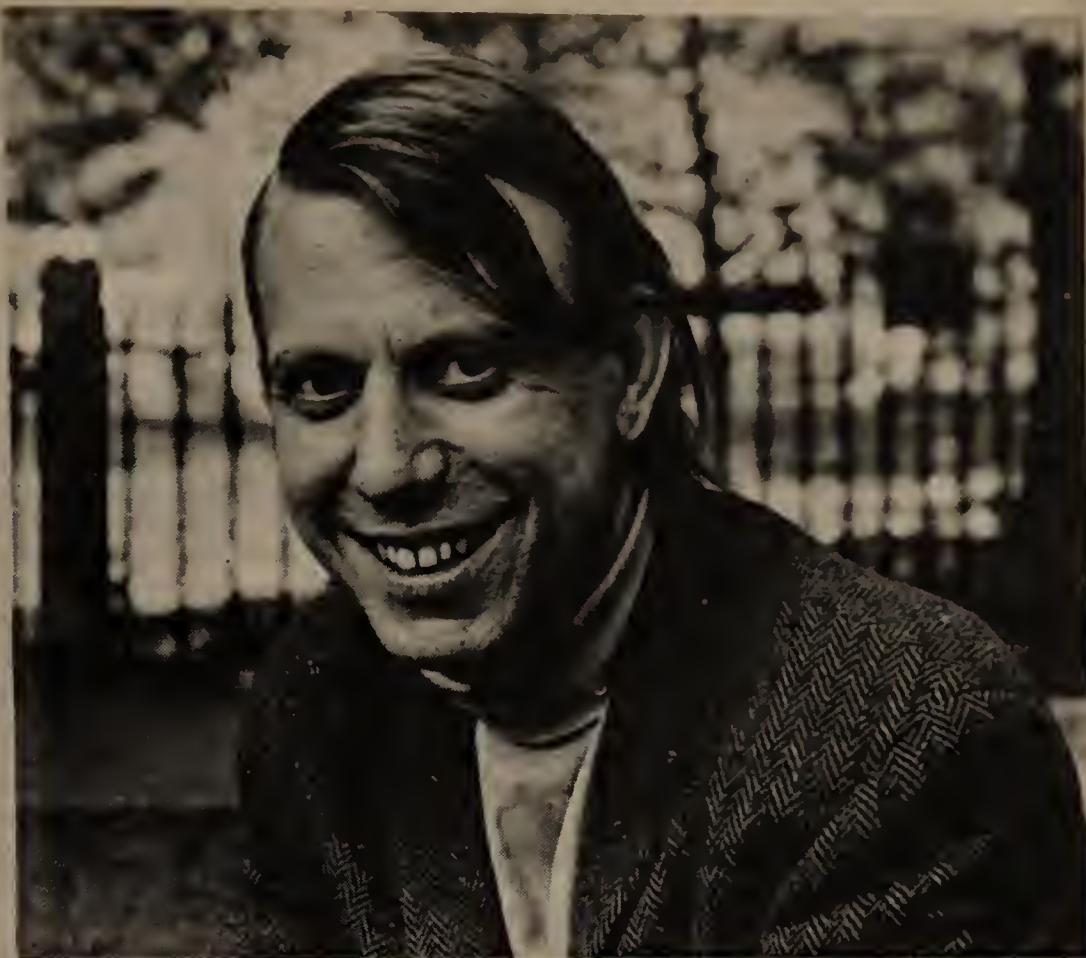
mind and allowed gay spokespeople to pre-screen the show anyway. However, as in Boston, Philadelphia NBC officials refused to relent.

Jimmy Zepp of New York's GAA denounced the show and indicated that it was a part of television's exploitation of the "woman as victim" theme. "And that means money," Zepp said, "so these network people will not listen to anyone."

Ellen B. Davis in Boston stated that "until there are positive images of lesbianism and male homosexuality, we must demand that they (the networks) stop feeding stereotypes of homosexuality as a violent and predatory act ... we must pressure them to create a balance to this kind of trash in the media."

GMA urges gay people to write angry letters to the sponsors of the show. A list of the sponsors is as follows:

Pfizer, Inc., 235 E. 42nd St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Advertising: Edward Littlejohn.
Playtex Ltd., 6363 Wortham Drive, Malton, Ontario, Canada. Lee Chaden.
Plough Inc., Box 377, Memphis, Tenn. 38101. Howard McIntyre.
Chevrolet Motors Division, General Motors Bldg., Detroit, Mich. 48202. Carl Olsen.
Jeff Schiffman, WBZ-TV, 1170 Soldiers Field Rd., Allston, Mass.
American Home Products Corp., 685 3rd Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10010. William Laporte.
Holiday Inn, Inc., 3742 Lamar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38118. K. Wilson.
Kayser Roth Corp., 640 5th Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10019. Chester Roth.
Miller Brewing Co., 4000 W. State St., Milwaukee, Wis. 5301. Robert Slawter.
Federal Communications Commission, Complaints & Compliance Division, 1919 M St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20554.



Rev. Edward Hougen, new pastor of MCC/Boston, chats with a GCN reporter on the steps of the Old West Church in Boston. Hougen took over the position after being selected two weeks ago. Photo by Neil Miller

Anti-Gay Bill Goes to Shapp

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A bill that would bar gay people from being employed as teachers, policemen, or prison guards has passed both houses of the Pennsylvania legislature and gone to the desk of Gov. Shapp. Although Shapp is expected to veto the bill, it is expected that the House and Senate will vote to override him.

The legislation, believed to be the first of its kind in the country, states that people who have violated the state's laws governing "deviate sexual intercourse" or who have admitted to doing so should be relieved of their jobs in five specific employment areas. The areas include prisons, juveniles, law enforcement, the mentally ill, and the mentally retarded.

The anti-gay legislation is an outgrowth of Gov. Milton Shapp's executive order of last May. At that time the governor, a liberal Democrat, announced that his administration would work "towards ending discrimination against persons solely because of their affectional or sexual preferences."

At that time, Rep. W. William Wilt criticized the governor and vowed to oppose the order. The Blair County Republican introduced the legislation as an amendment to an uncontroversial bill in the House on Sept. 30. The measure passed and was sent to the State Senate which approved it on Oct. 15.

Mark Segal of the Philadelphia-based "Gay Raiders" predicted that the legislature would override the governor and that the legislation would be challenged in the courts. According to Segal, a gay teacher at a juvenile facility has already volunteered to test the bill in the courts if it becomes law. Both the State Department of Justice and the "Gay Raiders" believe the bill to be unconstitutional.

Segal also pointed out that the bill could be used to fire both heterosexuals and homosexuals who violate the state sex laws. "Gays are holding down jobs of every description," he said. "The bill won't change that at all."

Community Board Ahoy!

By Ken Withers

BOSTON — Several people interested in the formation of a Gay Community Board to air grievances and handle disputes met on Tuesday at the Homophile Community Health Service and are calling on the whole community to be involved in the discussion of goals, procedures, and structure for the board.

The idea for the board came out of an open meeting of the Gay Community News when it was determined that some responsible forum was needed to solve problems between individuals and institutions in the community such as bars and agencies.

In addition, it was felt that a voice was needed for the Gay community to respond to outside attacks like the recent smear campaign against the Youth Advocacy Project Lambda.

At the meeting on Tuesday, people in attendance felt that a board could also facilitate communication between gay groups by being a central information center for events and resources, and could possibly set up a community switchboard if the resources were found.

Membership on the board, it was suggested, would have to be open to all interested groups and individuals in the community, if they demonstrated interest by attending meetings regularly.

The board could keep a central file of people skilled in mediating disputes, and could find people agreeable to both parties in a dispute who could help solve the problem. The board could also speak for the community to the public and press in the case of outside attacks, or do things such as circulate petitions and call public forums.

It was suggested that the board would probably need an executive committee of some sort to receive requests for action and to keep central files for the use of the whole community.

People interested in forming a board will be trying over the next week to get organizations and individuals to come to a meeting to discuss the structure of the board, hopefully to get input from as much of the community as possible.

The next meeting will be held at the Homophile Community Health Center, 80 Boylston St., Room 855, on Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m.



Gay Community News (G.C.N.) is dedicated to providing coverage of events and news of interest to the northeastern gay community, as well as stimulation of event-oriented opinion within the community.

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EDITORIAL

Enough is enough. It seems that once again the media feels that they can overlook and ignore gay people and our needs for fair and balanced representation.

On Saturday night, Oct. 25, NBC-TV played "Born Innocent," a made for TV movie about a 14 year old girl in a juvenile detention center. The show was aired last year and protest from lesbian and gay men's groups around the country resulted in some editing and cutting of the scene in which Linda Blair is raped by three other girls with a mop handle.

Representatives from GCN and Gay Media Action screened the film and realized that although the rape scene was edited out in part, the film remains incredibly offensive and feeds into the stereotype of gay people as brutal and predatory.

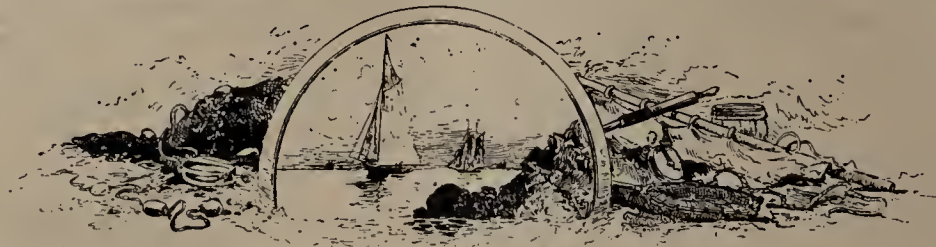
WBZ-TV was asked not to air the film in Boston but has insisted that they will do so. Apparently the management at WBZ-TV does not

believe that the gay community is sizeable enough and powerful enough to warrant taking too seriously. Pressure must be brought on them and other media representatives to show gay people as we really are, not as some straight white male fantasy of what we are.

We urge you all to phone WBZ-TV at (617) 254-3670 and tell John Pike, Executive Producer; Sy Yanoff, General Manager or Jeff Schiffman, Program Director, that gay people will no longer tolerate this kind of misrepresentation.

Also it is important to write to the sponsors of the show and let them know your feelings. The addresses of the advertisers can be found on page 3.

Another important action we can take is to write to the FCC insisting on more balanced programming depicting gay women and men. Their address is FCC, Complaints & Compliance Division, 1919 M St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20554.



mail requested

Dear GCN,

I have one small request at this time: Please ask your readers to write letters to President Ford and Secretary of the Air Force John McLucas, protesting the exclusion of the public and the press from Tech. Sgt. Leonard P. Matlovich's hearing.

Protest the failure of these elected and politically appointed officials to discharge their duties respectively as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, and Air Force Secretary, in ignoring the civil rights constitutionally guaranteed any member of the Armed Services.

Protest the expenditure of millions of dollars in witch hunts and trials of this sort, in an area of personal privacy where the armed forces have no legal right to interfere.

We get calls daily from servicemen and women presently under investigation and interrogation (with gestapo-like tactics). NIS (Naval Intelligence Service) has the balls to interrogate a married man's wife on her husband's sexual activities and proclivities. Such intrusions into individuals' private lives are outrageous, and have caused the destruction of many otherwise sound marriages.

Suggest that if these officials cannot discharge their responsibilities ethically and honorably, that they should resign their positions.

We need contributions and fund-raising affairs desperately to pay for legal and administrative expenses, telephone bills, reprinting of official transcripts, etc.

for Leonard P. Matlovich,
Charles A. (Al) Sevier

money honey

Dear GCN:

Some of this faggot's impressions while attending the First National Conference on Alternatives to Incarceration:

Homosexuality in prison . . . huh . . . huh . . . what did he say. Said fairies in prison . . . you know they're no angels.

Well what about that seventeen man gang bang they talk about.

Unfortunate . . . I grant you . . . but . . . but we are the National Interreligious Task Force on Criminal Justice you know . . .

With an advisory board make up for the First National Conference on Alternatives to Incarceration that reads something like this . . .

Sheriffs

A commissioner of corrections

A former commissioner of corrections

The Boston Globe

Principal of schools, MCI, Norfolk

And more former commissioners of corrections

and more sheriffs and more wardens and more holier than thous . . .

And the main theme assaulting my ears at the First National Conference on Alternatives to Incarceration was money money . . . honey . . . did you know it cost so and so to keep an inmate alive for twenty minutes I mean tisk tisk with soaring costs.

Homosexuality in prison . . . are those fruits kidding . . . I mean with soaring costs and all.

Well alright how about just sexuality in prison . . . does that sound healthy enough for you all?

So the room was packed and we sat around and talked and talked and a few necks were craned looking for one of those advisory board members who after all do deal rather directly with the prison community.

As wine whiskey and beer flowed at soaring prices the interreligious task force on criminal justice made concessions and granted a discussion on oppression of the homosexual in prison in guise of sexuality in prison . . . oh and in two adjoining closet like rooms, certainly proving that they were no prudes . . . I mean in this day and age of soaring costs . . .

freddie greenfield

LETTERS

Letters to the Editor should be 200 words or less. All letters submitted for publication must be signed; names will be withheld upon request. GCN retains the right to edit all letters.

suffolk county homophobia

Dear GCN:

Of the O'Brien case in Suffolk County . . .

Although it disturbs me to read of frameups, goon squads seeking out details of homosexual acts, and criminals impersonating police officers and aiding them in the investigation of suspected homosexuals, none of this surprises me, since it is happening in Suffolk County.

In 1972 the Gay Activities Alliance held a demonstration in Hauppauge calling for repeal of the state sodomy law, which the Suffolk police had been using as the justification for a vicious campaign of harassment and intimidation of homosexuals throughout the county. The demonstration was peaceful, but the police permitted several young toughs to attack the gays with impunity. Then the police attacked the homosexuals with chemical Mace, the only time gay activists have been gassed in America. (It was standard procedure in Nazi Germany.)

One young gay who was arrested was threatened by the police and told that if they got him in jail he'd never leave alive. When he went to Hauppauge for his trial, he was greeted by a plainclothes goon squad when he got off the bus and was beaten severely — only the Suffolk police had reason to know that he was due in Hauppauge that day.

Later in 1972 GAA held another demonstration against the Suffolk County Police, this time in Riverhead at the D.A.'s office to protest a strange arrest. The police had brought charges of sodomy against one man — but sodomy is hard to commit alone, even on Fire Island. Eventually, I believe, they dropped the charges. Was it another frameup or shakedown? Who knows? The gay activists at Riverhead were beaten up and thrown down the stairs.

There have been many other peculiar occurrences in Suffolk County involving homosexuality. I think it was in 1974 that there was a flurry of articles in the press on conditions in Suffolk County jails which indicated that several guards had been caught smuggling drugs, selling favors, and engaging in homosexual acts with prisoners. Was this just another example of the typical pattern of prison guards raping homosexual prisoners, or was something more out of the ordinary involved? I never found out, since the story disappeared from the papers without any resolution or indication that the guards involved had been disciplined or punished for committing sodomy. Might some of the same men be involved in some way with the O'Brien case?

If the Suffolk police can hunt homosexuals for political purposes and attempt to smear people with charges of sodomy, how can any homosexual citizen on Long Island or anywhere in this state feel safe?

Sincerely,

Pete Fisher

New York City

quick quality excerpted

Dear GCN,

At a recent meeting of the Gay Students Union of the University of California at Berkeley, I mentioned that I had worked on the layout of GCN during its early growth. I was delighted by the fact that people from throughout the United States had seen the paper, and had been impressed by its content and professionalism.

Keep up the good work — your influence is increasing as quickly as your quality.

Thank you and love,

Marty Wander



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racism continues

To GCN:

It should be common knowledge by now that black gay males are not welcome at the Styx or the 1270. Every week, black gays find themselves harassed at the door (Blacks must show three valid photo I.D.s). Last week a black gay brother was refused admittance into the Styx because two of his photo I.D.s were from out of state! Maybe the management of the Styx believes that black gay visitors from New York and Washington should have valid Massachusetts I.D.s.

It's about time all this racist bullshit stopped. It's about time black gays stopped supporting sick racist clubs like the Styx and the 1270. Boston is the only major city in the country without any black gay bars. If the Styx wishes a "white only" clientele, they should put that fact in print.

A Concerned Brother

mutual respect and deeper understanding

Dear GCN,

Once more you have inspired me by your editorial in the Oct. 18 issue.

It's true I know more about Men's Gay Lib because my son was gay but I am a woman. I marched at 14 years old for the right to vote. So all my life I've known oppression as a woman.

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So also, I know that Lesbians are doubly oppressed.

What the Gay Lesbian woman needs to learn is the long violent brutal history of oppression of gay men. I've been discovering that young Lesbians all too often do not know this.

I do believe gay men and Lesbians can and will help each other to mutual respect and deeper understanding on both sides.

By the way, can anyone find another word but "straight." I'm becoming more and more uncomfortable with that label. It implies everyone else is somehow crooked or distorted. Help!

Yours in love and unity,
Sarah V. Montgomery

endorsing a candidate

Dear GCN,

Last week I attended a house party for John D. O'Bryant, candidate for the Boston School Committee.

The idea of a black person running for School Committee has long impressed me as an admirable, if futile, pursuit. Its five members are elected *at large* from the entire city (I know small towns that aren't that foolish). In other words, the Committee is rigged against the election of blacks or against members of any other sizable minority. Mel King ran and lost in the 1960s; two years ago it was Pat Bonner-Lyons.

At first the idea of my endorsing a candidate for the School Committee in a gay newspaper might sound absurd, but the issue of racism affects all of us who live in and around the city of Boston: For the last 15 years, the School Committee has used the fear of blacks as a smokescreen to hide its own corruption. Anti-busing leaders like Louise Day Hicks have used

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the committee as a stepping stone for their own political ambitions, controlling patronage and construction contracts.

John O'Bryant has spent 15 years as a teacher and guidance counselor in the Boston Public Schools. He has witnessed the corruption and racism of the school system: the pressuring of teachers and school employees to buy testimonial tickets for members of the School Committee, and the creation of inferior schools through administrators and teachers who don't give a damn about their students.

The School Committee has bred a slew of demagogues who benefit from the chaos they have created. So far, only Kathleen Sullivan has had the guts to oppose the racist majority on the Council. Normally I'm wary of endorsing candidates, but I'm sick of seeing the voters of Boston coddling bigoted demagogues. We cannot afford Pixie Pallidino.

John Kyper

to know your ordinary "enemies"

Dear GCN Readers:

I find that I must comment on a letter I just read in GCN Oct. 11 entitled "ordinary guys and gals" which was in defense of the U.S. Military establishment as much if not more so, than in defense of Matlovich's rights to be gay. I want to simply say that I support Matlovich's rights to express his sexuality, freely in America, but I condemn the U.S. military establishment and am critical of Matlovich's obvious support of it. The military and political machine of Amerika has chosen and still chooses to keep the truth of the deep meaning behind its policies and endeavors from the ordinary working-class people that are its servants just as we gay folks have hidden (though not out of choice) our personal-emotional actions. The military tries to lead us into thinking that the Vietnamese, Russian, Cuban, N. Korean, Chinese, etc., people are our "enemies," just as the author or authoress put it: "I'd not like to make love with the enemy." I

think I'd die if I kissed Rockefeller!

The U.S. Military, and associated institutions-parties as far as I see it, are in fact enemies of the U.S. people and of those world-wide who believe and actively organize others against the nearly untouchable sources of power which perpetuate the amassing of capital, control, food, energy, and the facts of what's really happening in the hands of the few. Its personnel are puppets I'm sorry to say. (It doesn't matter if we're black or white, gay or straight, a lot of our struggle is the same fu--- fight.) As the bombs blew to bits innocent children in what is now a peaceful Ho Chi Minh City, the 1972 Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition established the fact that there were 30 million Americans hungry every day, and ten million were starving. Meanwhile, our resources still go into educating our own working-class and starving and unemployed people that our enemies are the Communists/Socialists/Anarchists the world over who are out to starve and control us. We are manipulated just as much if not more so (considering where our society could be by now) by our own powers and kept ignorant of it as much as possible, than our so-called "enemies" would, and do.

The contradictions in these power-plays are mind-boggling. It's good that a dialogue has been aired about these many forms of oppression due to Matlovich's PERSONAL struggle. Let's be careful when we use the word "enemy" and support those people and groups wishing to maximize both individual sexual freedom and egalitarian societies democratically elected, as Allende was in Chile before the CIA murdered him.

I support Brian Kelly's Sept. 7 letter.
In working class struggle,
Paula Cohen

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Otherfund Financial Statement

OTHERFUND, INC.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES
for the Period of February 10, 1975—September 10, 1975

October 14, 1975

Revenue:		
Donations	\$5,476.04	
Benefits	2,708.94	
Loans	2,933.00	
Total Revenue for Period		\$11,117.98
Expenses:		
Salaries	3,620.00	
Accrued Salaries Payable	1,540.00	
Space Rental	1,407.35	
Advertising	1,475.12	
Office Supplies	386.89	
Art Supplies	150.34	
Printing	992.42	
Telephone	728.98	
Benefit Staging	1,857.92	
Postage	241.24	
Service Charges	37.50	
Payment of Loans	400.00	
Total Expenses for Period		12,837.76
Excess of Expenses over Revenue		(\$ 1,719.18)

An Open Letter to Boston's Gay Community
from the Board of Directors of Otherfund, Inc.

Dear Friends and Supporters:

More than a year has passed since the idea of a fundraising effort specifically designed to support gay social and health services in the Boston area was proposed. In the interval much has happened.

All of us can feel great pride for the translation of this idea into a reality, yet we all share the disappointment of our failure to reach our stated goal of \$40,000, upon which our ability to fund these services rested. As our financial statement enclosed clearly indicates any funding of services this year is impossible. This we deeply regret.

OTHERWAY '75 was successful in raising \$8,000 through donations and benefits. Many of our staff members and volunteers advanced operating capital that enabled Otherfund to function. Unfortunately, all of these funds were not sufficient to enable us to meet our operating expenses. Thus, Otherfund now operates with a small deficit. Yet, we are not discouraged.

We deeply appreciate the support given by so many individuals and organizations, without which Otherfund would still remain only a dream. It is with a mixture of satisfaction and regret that we assess the outcome of our 1975 campaign. It is only through your continued support that we look forward to the next one with great enthusiasm and confidence.

Again, thank you for your faith and support.

Sincerely,

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OTHERFUND, INC.

Quinton Baker
Philip Castle
Patrick Everling
Gregory Hanifan
Kay Longcope
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Denise Vitale

15 Lansdowne Opening Set

By Skip Rosenthal

BOSTON — November 12 is the target date for the grand opening of Boston's newest and most unique discoteque. Fifteen Lansdowne Street, on the site of the former Cabaret-After Dark, is being launched by a group of New York investors.

Painted in ultramarine blue and white, the club's decor will feature large vases with small trees and flowers. The bars will be white upholstered leather as will the large art-deco styled arm chairs that are located throughout the building. Specially designed "light sculptures" will garnish the walls. There will be a multi-level lounge area with upholstered floor cushions and large overstuffed pillows. Wall-to-wall carpeting will decorate all but the huge hardwood dance floor.

A \$50,000 sound system has been installed which Assistant Manager Greg Ryan says is "more sophisticated than any other in existence." "Rings of light" created by a machine that rotates quickly in a circular pattern will highlight the dance floor, and from above will hang a six-foot rotating

crystal ball which Greg says is the largest one ever made. Special effects will include ultraviolet light, white balloons, go-go boys, and machines that produce bubbles, sprinkle confetti, and send a mist of fog amongst the dancers. D.J.s will be Michael Cappella and David Rodriguez, both on loan from New York's Le Jardin.

There will also be a small buffet area where a chef will serve omelettes or crepes with a roll and salad for \$1.75. Washroom attendants have been hired to serve hand towels. Waiters will wear white Adidas sneakers, white ankle socks, and brightly colored satin monogrammed basketball uniforms with matching warm-up jackets.

There will be no dress code but as Greg Ryan says, "Come as you enjoy being." Membership to the club will be available. Admission will be \$5 weekdays and \$7 weekends. The entrance fee entitles you to two large alcoholic beverages or one drink and a dinner. Additional drinks will cost \$1.75 apiece.

The telephone number is (617) 262-2424.

Bar Battle

(Continued from page 1)

hours must be the same for all bars in Boston, and the minority dissent, which represents the first time homophobia can be documented in this case. By late November the local board is expected to render another decision which may, of course, be appealed in court. According to the police, however, the local board already has sufficient authority to set closing hours, in spite of any state commission decision.

Meanwhile, the governor has called for reorganization of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. More specifically, his assistant press secretary, Gary Sugarman, told GCN that the governor will ask his Secretary of Consumer Affairs, Lola Dickerman, to

promulgate regulations curtailing the power of the ABCC over local licensing boards. Sugarman continued, "in response to the Bay Village and other cases, the governor feels the local boards should have authority over local matters." This is the same argument used by Commissioner Harrington, Dukakis' lone appointee to the state commission: "I urge that the local licensing board give the majority's recommendation due consideration and then heed the anguish of the residents." It remains to be seen whether reorganization, home rule, executive orders, local dissent, or homophobia will prevail in this most conflicted case.

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Music Festival Explodes with Energy and Fine Sounds



Margie Adam

photos Jane Picard

and out of each other's sets; the concept of competition suddenly disintegrated. Certainly no one is in it for the money — if it sounds good, do it. But don't be led into thinking that no one rehearsed. The free-sharing of talent would have been self-defeating had it sacrificed quality and polish.

Holly Near, accompanied on the piano by Adam, was heavy on the dramatics leading up to her songs, but did give us perhaps the highlight of the evening. Her sister, Timothy Near, formerly with the National Theatre of the Deaf, performed in mile-a-minute sign language a funny song that Holly was singing about growing up. The audience went nuts, gave them a long standing ovation.

Chris Williamson with her guitar and occasional help from Meg and Margie, gave us pleasure with her powerful voice in songs about sweet women, shooting stars, witchcraft and waterfalls. Sound good? It was. So were the six women in the New Harmony Sisterhood Band. They played a variety of stringed instruments, and their best number was called "Blood," a transactional analysis of menstruation in ragtime.



Meg Christian

By Suzanno

There are now many hundreds of high women around the area and beyond with endless melodies and inspiration in their heads. Where did it all come from? The first Boston Women's Music Festival, Oct. 17, 18 and 19 at Harvard's Paine Hall gave SRO crowds a long-awaited chance to hear some of the finest sounds in today's women's music. Indeed, it gave many observers their first real exposure to the vital spirit of women's music.

At first, I didn't think that I could sit through all three nights. After the first night I was considering camping out in the hall so as not to miss a thing. It is Monday as I'm writing and I am still on air.

It all started Friday night with Boston's own Jade and Sarsaparilla *a capella*. They moved on to the beautiful original "I Can't Stay, I Can't Go" which made good use of the infinite range of Linda's voice. Their personalized fusion of harmony and bop emerged especially in "She's That Kind of Woman" and again in the custom-made "Talkin'." They were polished as ever.

They are a hard act to follow, but not for Ginni Clemmens in corduroy. A few pro riffs of blues guitar, and suddenly the mood has gone from Jade & Sarsaparilla slickness to Ginni's down home lullabies. She requests that the house lights go on so she can see the people. She's happy to be here, and we know it as she conjures up the harmonies of angels from balcony on Judy Sills' "Lady-O." The energy level is high and no one now wants Ginni to leave. No one wants *anyone* to leave. But Willie Tyson is backstage, so on we go. Twelve-string guitar in hand, she does some fine and funny songs. Willie comes through like an ace comedian in hysterical monologues. As the first night of music ends, I feel that all the Muses are in Boston.

Saturday. Tanned and smiling, Margie Adam at the piano is a weaver of music and lyrics into a fine set (from "Images" to "Lost in Inner Space") of eloquent composition and performance. The "Unicorn Song" was well-loved, but the most outstanding number was "Well I Never" with Margie on piano and vocals and the backup harmony of Meg Christian and Holly Near. Margie, Meg, Chris Williamson and Kay Gardner frequently spurted in



Kay Gardner

Sunday. Everyone is breathless now; ideas and plans are taking shape all around. People come for tickets at 10 a.m. in the rain. Start — Maxine Feldman is beautiful. "Hello, Boston" puts her right at home, and everyone's glad she's back. "Everywoman," a gently powerful song about mothers and menopause, was one of my favorites as was her goof on Helen Reddy's "I Am Woman." Feldman's professionalism shone bright in a rapid succession of casual and funny improvisations.

Applause resounded for Meg Christian before she even started singing. All of Meg's songs are showstoppers. Next Andres Waltman, an East-coast musician, zapped a lot of talent into three perfect songs that led into the festival's last set. Kay Gardner is magic. With a flute and a company of accomplished musicians (also referred to as "Kay's Army"), Kay wove moon circles over all my soul. Her incense and feathers streaming into the audience seemed to be the seeds of the women's musical kingdom being sown.

Finally, finally, a link between all sisters in the joy and warmth and

powers of music. Finally an extremely well-organized music festival destined for larger and larger halls where women can sing of their feelings, their issues, their love for women. Like so many women who went to the festival I am exploding with energy and music. I want to turn on the radio and hear Margie Adam. I want to see the Kay Gardner Show on TV, and I don't know what to do first, or, as Meg Christian said in song, "Where Do We Go From Here." O.K., for starters there's the Boston Women's Music Collective which, in November, is sponsoring a weekend of workshops and music. There's the Artemis Productions (the sponsor of the glorious festival), plans for a local women's coffeehouse and LPs of women musicians many available at New Words Bookstore and Other Voices Bookstore. And there's you, wonderful you with your million songs that dance on mind and soul. Let us unite in this music and let us sing it always, together, all the way home.



Maxine Feldman

Message from an Average, Everyday High School Activist

GAYRAP, an occasional column for gay teenagers.

This space will be open to youth to ask for and receive advice, to express feelings, to tell other youth about activities in your school or town.

By Brian Przevalaski

Oh, the trial and tribulations of being a gay activist in high school! It's a real battle. Battle? You bet your sweet ass, baby. For I'm up against a lot of shit that older activists are spared because of their age and/or position. True, I don't have a job to lose (at least, not during the school year), a landlord or the equivalent to contend with. However, in my existence there is the administration of the school, glaring librarians, phobic teachers, hysterical parents (yup, hysterical parents — to date I've received 87 crank calls, from the parents, good staid citizens, and threatening, nasty bastards who claim to be doing me a "favor."), the constant threat of getting beaten up (most of the time I've escaped without a scratch) and the double condemnation of the law (not only can I not sleep with a man because no man can sleep with another man, but also there exists on the lawbooks something that says who ever (if he's over 18) is caught having sex with me can be hauled in for statutory rape). Delightful, eh?

Really, I'm not that unusual. I'm just your average, everyday Socialist-Quaker existentialist, committed to the liberationary movements, but especially to the men's end and the gay movement. Typical gay activist, right? However, being in my position, (I am completely out of the closet at school and at home), is a bit straining on the psyche and requires a lot of intellectual and emotional gumption (in order to deal with either a "radical" who thinks that the gay movement is irrelevant to the liberation of The People — draw your own conclusion — or some knife-wielding, gut-slashing phobe in a leather jacket who swears he's "gonna kill every goddamn queer I can find.")

I am 15½ years old, going into my last year of high school (hopefully), and have been involved in the gay movement since 1973. I'll never forget the time I officially came out as a faggot (and I say that reverently, friends — I've got a 90 degree limp wrist and I'm damn proud of it) in school...in a "Social Problems"-type

class (I was in ninth grade). I gave a lecture on the history of the gay movement, read passages from *Society and The Healthy Homosexual* and *Lesbian/Woman*, and briefly discussed the works of Allen Ginsburg. Later, I was told that I would be: a) beaten shitless; b) suspended; c) killed) d) ostracized. Only the last came true, luckily.

What does you average, everyday high school gay activist do during the school day? Well, after being thrown out of bed and told to be a good boy, I go to the brick, apathy-ridden institution known as Amherst Regional High School. After going through the general long tirade of announcements known as home room, I usually go up to the art room to read, study (rarely), listen to records, or shoot the shit. The artroom of ARHS is one of the very few vestiges of free thinking in the high school. The artroom is usually populated by the "social rejects" — the leftover hippies from five or six years ago, a smattering of beatniks complete with bongo drums and copies of *On the Road*, a pusher or two, a lot of Third World people, and us gay or feminist folk. The gay people at ARHS are for the most part closeted and scared, although one of the great joyful experiences of my life was helping a very dear buddy of mine realize that it was good to feel what she was feeling (feelings towards women), and to get her involved with the gay and feminist movements. She's thanked me for helping her clarify her values and feelings, and I thank her for being brave enough and honest enough to commit herself to bettering the lot of our gay brothers and sisters. I love ya, J.H. But, as I say, for the most part, the gay people in the high school I know of (four other men) all shun me to save their "reputation" but seek me out later, either for sex (which I don't give them, because I can't deal with hypocrites) or for advice, which I do give them. Hopefully, more guys or gals this coming year will be able to say "Yeah, I am gay. Instead of feeling guilty, I'll get good and goddamn angry at a system that stabs me in the



back!"

I take most of my classes at U. Mass. Last spring I had a class called "Human Sexuality and Sex Education," taught by a thoroughly magnificent instructor, a Black woman in her later forties. There were two other gay people in the class, two phenomenal folks (a man and a woman) who, along with me, took a lot of shit from some people in the class for being gay and being so "loud about it."

Outside of those things I do low-key and mundane things every week — go to Quaker Meeting (where everyone knows I'm gay, but thinks it's cool), do social research, read Marx, Ginsberg or Jeff Keith (a brother here in the Pioneer Valley), listen to the Shangrilas, Billie Holliday and Charlie Parker, go to Pioneer Valley Gay

Union meetings, cruise a bit, help put together and do "Gay Break," a community radio show on WMUA, smoke a little bit.

Why be a gay activist at my age? Hell, why not? It's good to realize your feelings for the same sex and to act on them, but I feel that I have a responsibility not only to myself, but to every other gay sister and brother. We may have nothing in common but our sexual preference; but isn't that enough, since it means that all of us suffer the same oppression? People who are oppressed and hurting need to pull together.

To the gay people who are under 18: hey, sibling, we're not only fucked over because we're gay, but also because we're young. I've been beaten up, cussed at, spat on. I made it, so will you.

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Skip On Movies, Movies, Movies

By Skip Rosenthal

In a prelude to the Academy Award nominations, Al Pacino has won the "Best Actor" award at Italy's San Sebastian Film Festival for his portrayal of a gay bank robber in Warner Brothers' "Dog Day Afternoon" . . . Italian screen star Luigi Proietti plays a transvestite in "And Women Created Love." Lea Massari portrays a Lesbian in the same pic . . . Two years ago New York lesbians picketed German director Rainer Warner Fassbinder's "The Bitter Tears of Petra Von Kant" at the New York Film Festival. This year, however, with the director previewing "Fist — Right of Freedom," a study of male homosexuality, at the same fest, there was no commotion even though many openly gay film reviewers were in attendance . . . The Canadian film "Me," from a hit play by the same title, previewed recently at the Stratford Film Festival. The pic is about a bisexual writer and his three relationships (an estranged wife, an

actress, and his best male friend) . . . Brazilian director Antonio Carlos Fontoura previewed a new Blaxploitation pic (with a new twist) at the San Sebastian Fest. "The Devil Queen" features a murderous black gay queen as the head of the local Mafia . . . Avco Embassy has scheduled for release in 1976 "A Different Story" about a gay marriage of convenience (?). The script was panned by Henry Olek . . . Look for the new film "The AC/DC Caper" to be playing at a theater or drive-in near you. Starring Kaye Stevens, the pic is about the humiliations of a cop in drag.

Richard Lester ("The Three Musketeers," "A Hard Days Night") will direct "The Ritz," from the hit Broadway play which takes place at New York's famous Continental Baths, for Warner Bros. Production is scheduled to begin shortly . . . The British film version of "The Rocky Horror Show" just opened to packed houses in



George Sand

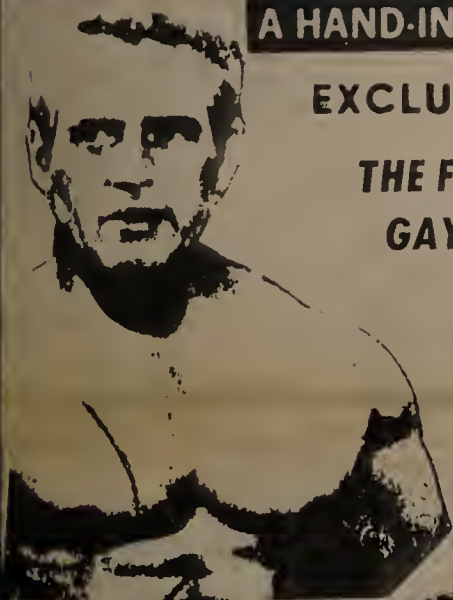
Los Angeles. The pic features a bisexual main character . . . "Yentl" opened in Philadelphia recently before its Broadway stage debut. Tovah Feldshuh stars in this musical about a woman who masquerades as a man in order to gain admittance to the local "yeshiva," and then marries another woman . . . The Public Broadcasting System will run a seven-part biography starring Rosemary Harris as 19th century writer George Sand beginning Sunday, Nov. 16, at 9 p.m. on its "Masterpiece Theatre." It will be interesting to see television's treatment of the feminist author's reputed lesbianism . . . Labelle recently surprised Los Angeles Concert goers when they guested transvestite group, the Cycle Sluts, who joined the singers in a chorus line routine . . . And finally a note for our pedophile readership: Mike Curb Productions has signed a one year contract with Shaun Paul Cassidy, the 17 year old brother of singer-actor David Cassidy. 'Nuff said.

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Tuesday
Morning
Workout

(X)

THE GAY GUY'S GUIDE

Connections

By Avi

"Let's go out tonight."
"What do you have in mind."
"How about a bar."
"They're too crowded on weekends."
"Come on. It'll be fun."
"I don't know. I don't feel like it."
"Hey, that's a good attitude."
"What do you mean."
"The greatest things happen when you least expect them to."
"You mean I'll find my dream tonight."
"You just may, but I thought I was your dream."
"You are. All I'm saying is that love doesn't happen in bars."
"How does it happen."
"You know, it comes naturally."
"More natural than in a bar."
"Now you're joking with me."
"What am I supposed to do."
"Be serious."
"Okay, I'm sorry."
"You know you don't find anything more than tricks at bars."
"That's an awful thing to say."
"You cant find friendships or lovers in bars."
"Now who's talking silly."
"I'm not talking silly."
"You certainly are. You've even got a terrible memory."
"Memory. What's memory got to do with it."
"Think of some of the people we know."
"Okay."
"Didn't we meet some at the bars."
"Yeah. But they don't really count."
"How come."
"They aren't typical bar people."
"I hope you realize you're being silly."
"Actually, to tell you the truth, I suddenly do feel silly."
"Why suddenly."
"Well, didn't I meet you in a bar?"

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Speaking for Myself

By Allan Stewart

"Living with other people," as two of my ex-roommates so tritely observed, "is hard work." It is indeed, especially if a couple of the people, for whatever reason, won't do it. But group living, either with one or two roommates or in a larger "communal" setting, is an integral part of the gay scene which can be, if the group is put together well, very rewarding to the people involved.

The reasons are simple. It's usually more economical than living alone. It may provide a sort of supportive "Family" experience which many gay people want but can't otherwise find. But it doesn't just happen. Everyone involved in the group must work to make it succeed.

I'd always been a loner. But about two years ago, I started feeling I needed to live with other people in a

non-lover situation. When I had a chance to join a small group, I jumped at it. It seemed ideal. I liked the people. I liked the house and its location. I felt I could contribute something to the group, and they to me. It didn't work. I left, angry and bitter after ten months. Perhaps I expected too much. Perhaps I didn't try hard enough. Perhaps. . . well, who's to know?

There were five of us when I left the group. Besides me, one was a child-man and sometimes hustler who could not reconcile wanting to be a stereotypical "trashy fairy" with his Southie "machismo." One was a counselor in a gay agency who was incredibly insensitive to others. Another was a former gay activist, breaking away from a lover, who perhaps deliberately was reducing himself to a cipher. And one was an extremely talented and bright

living with other people

person who put himself down constantly and tried sparing himself all sorts of grief by not letting anyone or anything get close to him or have real meaning for him.

Hardly a group destined to succeed as a "group," and of course it didn't. It's scattered now. I would have liked to stay friends with two of the people, but it doesn't seem possible. My attempts have been rebuffed, so I won't pursue it. Yet I am still intrigued by the idea of living with other people. I'd do it again, though I think there are some important criteria for the "gathering" of a group which would have to be considered.

The most important criterion is a "commonality," a sharing of something beyond the routine of housekeeping. Diverse personalities and interests are needed, certainly, but there must be at least one important area where everyone's lives and lifestyles touch. Being gay is not enough, nor is just getting along with each other. There must be an active "something" which is shared by everyone in the group.

No one in the group can expect, or be allowed, to operate passively within the group. Everyone must take an active and supportive part towards every other person, and towards the corporate group. And this involves an allegiance to the group, an awareness that sometimes the group must take precedence over the individual. Everyone must work actively to sustain the group, and no one can consistently just lean on the group.

I don't expect the group to be static, however. I would hope it would be an active, growing, changing thing. It must change and respond to the changing needs of each person in it, to each person's changing moods and interests, both individually and as a group. People have to make their needs known, though, since people aren't always mind readers.

One person in the group must be a natural "arbiter" or "conciliator." I don't mean "leader": that has the wrong connotation. In the mechanics

of running the house, there should be group agreement and a rough equality in duties and responsibilities. The arbiter would have an intense attachment to the group, perhaps the strongest personality, and a natural ability to work out compromises and settle differences. So when something couldn't be talked out, he would be the one to arbitrate unobtrusively and settle it.

Other people would probably add other requirements. And I've assumed, for instance, that the people are compatible and can get along together. I've assumed, too, that the group has made provision for "private" and "public" spaces, and has established some sense of visitors being guests of an individual or of the group, whether for meals or whatever. These are basic.

The small group in which I was living obviously didn't meet many (if any) of these criteria, and most of the people in it, unfortunately, weren't particularly desirous of developing them, either. As a result, the frictions which developed were unsolvable. But the last straw, perhaps, was when one of the people decided he wanted to be the "arbiter," but he didn't want to do the work involved. Tensions could not be resolved, and the group dissolved.

In spite of this one failure, however, I still think living in a group is a good, healthy idea. It's a way for people to have a sense of belonging to each other, of being supportive and loving in a positive and non-sexual context, of sharing one another's joys and sorrows, of being needed by other people while having other people help meet your needs. I hope to try again, one day soon, living with other people.

(NOTE: since this is a topic which hasn't been discussed before in GCN, and I find it particularly fascinating, I would very much appreciate hearing other people's views on the subject. I'll try to acknowledge all letters, and while I may quote from them in a future column, I will not name names. so please write.)

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BWM into theater, art, music, yoga. Am young appearing, fair of face and body. Also like all kinds of consciousness-raising experiences. I seek the same relatively speaking. Please write GCN Box 493 for mutual joy sharing. Please, no fats or fems. Peter

A home offered to young (19-23) GWM, smooth swimmers bod, not hirsute, in exchange for light housework. No \$\$\$. You must be quiet, reasonably masculine, preferably non-smoker, who needs a home, a father image and supportive care. No commitments at this time. I'd like a lover but it's going to take a while before scars from the last one heal. Be sincere, honest, together. Nice deal for student or similar. I am loving, affectionate, thoughtful, supportive, decent in an old-fashioned sense, and youthfully active. 6'2", 165 lbs. Write fully, preferably with photo. to GCN Box 489.

FRI. NIGHT BLUES?

Why be bored, hassled or stood up? Come to GCN office at 6 pm and experience good folks and pleasant conversation, while folding and mailing GCN.

YOUNG, GAY AND HASSLED?

Call or drop in to Project Lambda, 70 Charles St., Boston (227-8587). An advocacy program for youth (12-17 years old) who need help dealing with family, court, school, etc. M-F, 10 am-6 pm.

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1975 edition . . . 400 listings of businesses, services, organizations, crafts-people, professionals. Gay life and living from Cape Cod to Cos Cob, Bridgeport to Bangor. \$2 to GCN/GPG, Box G-1, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108.

College student, 20, handsome and well-built, 5'10", 160, seeks financial assistance from gentleman in exchange for companionship. Send tel. and/or pic to GCN Box 432.

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publications

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The South a strange land about which many people have ideas but few people really know. Find out about it, read THE BARB, The News Monthly for Southern Gays. Sample copy 50c; 1 yr. (12 issues) \$5.00. POB 7922B, Atlanta, GA 30309. (Advertisers' Inquiries welcome—we're the South's largest gay publication—current circulation 16,000.)

IMAGE

The quarterly magazine for the sophisticated transsexual and transvestite. Exciting, provocative, and helpful. Subscription \$8. Third World Communications, Box 13271, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101.

Transvestite Newsletter. Free Sample. Has articles, photos, personals and unusual offers. Write Empathy, Box 12466, Seattle, Wash. 98111.

Personal ad listing service, 100's of personal non-coded ads of young persons. Send 50c for a recent sample issue with complete information and an ad form. Write BSJ, Box 337, Milliken, CO 80543.

FOCUS

A Journal for lesbians, put out by Boston DOB. New, exciting format. 60c sample copy, \$6.00 for 1 year. Send check to DOB, 419 Boylston St., Rm. 323, Boston, MA 02116.

PEACEWORK

Nonviolent social change news reported in lively monthly New England newsletter. Subscription \$3, sample copy free. Peacework, 48 Inman St., Cambridge, MA 02139.

FRESH CHICKEN!

Very young boys are celebrated in magazine published by Denmark's COQ. Now available in the U.S. without customs problems. For a sample copy of Boy, Lifeboy or Tommy, send \$8 each. Catalog alone \$1. EUROMAG, 167 W. 21st St. (Downstairs), New York, N.Y. 10011.

MAJORITY REPORT

Feminist News For Women — published every other week. Subscr. \$5.00/year. 74 Grove St., NYC 10014.

WIN MAGAZINE

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GAY BOOKS BY MAIL

Celebrate the Gay experience! Lesbian & Gay Liberation Book Catalog. Send 25 cents to Lambda Rising, 1724 20th St., NW, #G, Washington, D.C. 20009.

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roommates

Roommates wanted to share large attractive apt. with harbor view. Includes all laundry facilities, parking, and utilities. 20.00 per wk. Call Portland, Me. (207) 772-8231.

Gay male law student, 24, seeks responsible person to share charming Beacon Hill 4 rm apt. Own bdrm. \$155/mo., avail. Nov. 1. 723-3086.

Easy-going friendly GWM, 23 seeks compatible guy to share Beacon Hill apt. Eat-in kitchen. 2 bdrms. Good locat. Call Don at 227-5124. Thanx!

Lesbian Feminist wanted for a supportive Gay household of 2 men and 1 woman near Inman Square. \$50 rent plus utilities. Call 628-3870.

CO-OP IN FRAMINGHAM

Interested in renting house (or buying) in rustic location or renting with a few people in Framingham Center. Best time to call 9 a.m.-2 p.m., ask for Peter (David), 881-9885 (Discretion, please).

GF looking for gay house or apt. to live in. Can pay \$100/mo. for rent and my share of expenses. Would like my own room, prefer quiet roommates. NOT into dope or alcohol. Need privacy and respect for my property. Arrange to share food & chores. Looking in the Boston area, or nearby suburbs.

TIRED OF CITY LIVING?

3 Lesbian Feminists seek 4th to share spacious country house & land in Amherst. Supportive atmosphere with room for building own space. \$100/mo. + util. Call 1-413-253-5161.

Spacious 5 room apt. on Beacon Hill with parking. 2 men looking for 1 male roommate. \$100/month with heat. Available Oct. 1. Call 227-8519 after 6 pm.

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For modern 2 BR apt., Beacon Hill. Recent renov., modern kitchen & bath, attractive, conven. to T & shopping. Own room, porch. Furn. \$150/mo., yr. lease, seek respon. working male compat. with cats. Call Henry at 723-6264 after 6 p.m. or 894-1980.

Professional woman wanted to share my home & expenses. GWF, 35-45 — Central Conn. Must be clean and honest — photo please.

GM, 24, prof., seeks rm for spacious Brookline Village apt. \$115 heat and hot water included. Write GCN Box 488.

GWM, 29, SEEKS LARGE APT. with GWM, GWF, or BI, 25-40, Bost or Camb, 2 bdrm desired, max. \$150 each. Rmte compatibility most imp. Sincere replies only, 267-2570, after 9 pm.

GAY COLLECTIVE needs roommates. Help build a community on Fort Hill. Call Greg, 442-6029.

3 ROOM APART. IN QUIET AREA NEAR Rapid Transit ready Nov. 1st. Rent based on what you can afford. Call 241-7925 after 6 or weekends.

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30 thur

Boston, Listen for GCN on WERS 88.9FM at 5:30 pm.

31 fri

Boston, Halloween Disco Dance and Costume Party at Charles Street Meetinghouse, 8-12 PM. Door prize, costume contest, music by Marlene. Tickets \$1.75 benefit DOB. This is open to everyone.

N.Y.C., All day Workshop, "Counseling with Homosexuals," presented by Dr. Ralph Blair at the 18th Annual Conference of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sex at Barbizon Plaza Hotel, 106 Central Park South.

Worcester, People's Gay Alliance and Gay Women's Caucus at UMass Amherst present *Liberty Standing* and disco music at their Halloween Dance, 9 pm at Worcester Dining Commons, \$1.50 cover, BYOB.

Cambridge, Halloween Concert and Celebration, Dance for the New World is presenting a dance concert and disco party at the YWCA, Central Square at 8 pm. Tickets \$3 available at Charles Street Meetinghouse or at the door. For more info call 426-2248.

Provincetown, Fantasia Fair Halloween Party, 7:30 at Crown & Anchor. For info call (617) 487-1430.

1 sat

Cambridge, Halloween Concert and Celebration, Dance for the New World is presenting a dance concert and disco party at the YWCA, Central Square at 8 pm. Tickets \$3 available at Charles Street Meetinghouse or at the door. For more info call 426-2248.

Cambridge Gay Neighbors get together for fun and drinks at 4:30. A small contribution will be requested. Call 492-3353 for details.

2 sun

Boston Bail Project/Bail Fund is sponsoring a dinner and musical evening at Commonstock Restaurant, 39 Moody St., Waltham, at 7 pm. Music by New Harmony Sisterhood. Donation is \$5.50 to benefit bail fund. Tickets available at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, or at the door. For more info call 491-1575 weekdays 10-4.

3 mon

Providence, Tribute to Lillian Hellman, Monday night Film Series. "Watch on the Rhine," 1943, Bette Davis, Paul Lucas. Showings at 7 and 9:15 pm at Downstairs Playhouse. Call 401-521-1100 for information.

Tri-City NOW (Malden, Medford, Everett) is open to new members for its task force on Lesbianism and Sexuality. Gay sisters are urged to join. Contact Carol Chapman c/o Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge or call 354-8807 and leave message.

8 sat

Boston, GAY and NU Gay Student Organization present a conference, "The Gay University—1975," at Eli Student Center, NU. Registration 12-2, Workshops 2-3:30 and 4-5:30. On Sunday a general meeting 2:30 to 4:30.

9 sun

Boston U Gays "Fall Frolic" dance, 9-1 in George Sherman Union Ballroom, 775 Comm. Ave. Music by Artandryl and D.J., full bar, admission \$1.50.

Submit Calendar items to Calendar Editor, GCN, by noon on Wednesday prior to date of publication.



27 mon

Providence, Tribute to Lillian Hellman, Monday night Film Series. Tonight is "Watch on the Rhine," 1943, with Bette Davis, Paul Lucas. Watch for other films in this series shown on Monday nights through December at 7 and 9:15 pm. Showings at Downstairs Playhouse. Call 401-521-1100 for information.

There will be a GCN benefit at Styx, 20 Blagden St., Boston, tonight between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. A \$250 cash door prize will be given away. \$2 donation.

Boston, Parents of Gays support group for interested parents and family members of gays meets at 7 pm at HCHS, 80 Boylston St., Rm. 855. Call Dave Griffiths at 542-5188 for more info.

Provincetown, Fantasia Fair TV-TS Films: 6 pm *Our Miss Fred*, 8 pm, *Dinah East*; Tues. 6 pm *Gay Deceivers*, 8 pm *I Want What I Want*. Tickets for Festival are \$7 or \$3 per showing. For info call (617) 487-1430, Crown & Anchor Motor Inn.

28 tues

Boston, GCN sponsors open meetings with the community the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm. Come and share your views with your newspaper. 22 Bromfield St., Boston.

Boston Community Board meeting to form group which will handle problems between factions of the gay community. Your input is needed. 7:30 pm at HCHS, 80 Boylston St., Rm. 842.

29 wed

Worcester, Workshop on Psychology and Homosexuality at Clark U., 200 Academic Center, 7 pm. Refreshments available; open to entire community.

Provincetown, Fantasia Fair Fashion Show at Backroom, Crown & Anchor Motor Inn. For info call (617) 487-1430.

Salem State College lecture, "What It Means To Be Gay" at 7 pm in Student Union A & B Lounge. Open to community.

BOSTON AREA [area code 617]
Access (Cambridge Hotline) 661-3900
Adolescent male rap session, 4-6 pm 227-8587
B'nai Haskalah (Gay Jewish group) 265-6409
Black Gay Men's Caucus, GCN, Box 9600 734-0618
Boston Gay Men's Rap Group 426-9371
Boston Lavender Theatre: Women's group 492-5220 Men's group 440-5220
Cambridge North/Brattle Gays (write c/o Gay Legislation) 661-9362
Cambridge Women's Center 354-8587
Charles Street Meetinghouse 523-0368
Cambridgeport Gays, c/o GCN Box 6500 227-9469
Civil Liberties Union of Mass. 492-6450
Closet Space (WCAS), 740m AM 262-1592
Daughters of Bilitis Dignity of Boston, c/o 1105 Boylston St., Boston 727-2584
Eaiane Noble (Rep.) 727-2584
Fag Rag 536-9826
Fenway Community Health Center 267-7573
Fengay, c/o Tom Nylund 267-1066
Framingham Unicorn Society, P.O. Box 163, Framingham, MA 01701
Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom 440-8551
Gay Hotline (3-12 pm, Mon.-Fri.) 426-9371
Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC), c/o GCN, Box 8000
Gay Academic Union of New England, P.O. Box 212, Boston 02101 266-2069
Gay Alert (for gay community emergency only) 523-0368, 267-0764
Gay Media Action, c/o GCN Box 5000, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108 523-1081
Gay Community News 426-4469
Gay Nurses Alliance, c/o GCN Box 251, Boston 02108
Gay People of UMass/Boston 287-1900x2396
Gay Speakers Bureau 547-1451
Gay Way Radio (WBUR, &? & FM) 353-2790
Gay Legislation '75, P.O. Box 8841, JFK Sta., Boston 02144 491-2787, 661-9362
Gay Youth Advocates, 70 Charles St 227-8587
Gender Identity Service 864-8181
Golden Gays 482-8998
Good Gay Poets 536-9826
Harrington-Randall Gays 495-1927
Homophile Community Health Svc 542-5188
Inequality Boston, P.O. Box 2582 02208
Lesbian Liberation 354-8807
Lesbian Women's Center 354-8807
Lesbian Mothers 354-8807
Lesbian Therapy Research Project 354-8807

Massachusetts Feminist Federal Credit Union, 186 1/2 Hampshire St., Cambridge 661-0450
Metropolitan Community Church 523-7664
MIT Student Homophile League 253-5440
National Lawyers Guild, 595 Mass. Av 661-8898
National Organization for Women 267-6160
Northeastern Gay Students Org., c/o Student Federation, Rm. 152, Eli Ctr. Other Fund, Inc. (Gay United Fund), P.O. Box 1997, Boston 02105 426-0412
Other Voices Bookstore, 30 Bromfield St., Boston
Project Place 267-9150
Fr. Paul Shanley 267-0764
Project Lambda 227-8587
Transvestites/Transgenderists: Frances Craig, P.O. Box 291, MIT Branch, Cambridge 02139 776-0921
Transvestites/Transgenderists: Ariadne Kane, Box 161, Cambridge 02140
Tufts Gay Community, c/o Student Activities Office, Medford, MA 02155 776-0921
Waltham-Watertown Gays, c/o GCN Box 7100
Women's Community Health Center, Cambridge 547-0302

Quick

Gay

Guide



EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS [area code 617]
Alcoholics Together/Worcester 756-0730
Dignity/Merrimack Valley P.O. Box 348, Lowell, 01853
Gay Activists Alliance, c/o Postmaster General Delivery Provincetown 487-3393, 487-3234, 487-3344

Haverhill, N.E.C.C. Gay Line, M 8-10 am, T 6-8 pm, W 12-2 pm 327-0929
Homophile Union of Montachusett, P.O. Box 262, Fitchburg 01420
MCC/Worcester 756-0730
Provincetown 24-Hour Drop-In Center 487-0387
Provincetown Homophile Assistance League, Box 674, Provincetown 02657
New Bedford Women's Clinic 999-1070

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS [area code 413]

Amherst Gay Hotline (men & women) 545-0154
Clark Gay Alliance, Box A-70, Clark Univ., Worcester 01610
Dignity/Springfield, P.O. Box 488 Forest Park Sta., Springfield 01107
Everywomen's Center, Amherst 545-0883
Gaybreak Radio (WMUA-FM, 91.9) 545-2876
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst 545-3438
Hotline, Westfield, Mass. (M&Tues. 9 pm-11 pm) 568-9759
People's Gay Alliance, UMass/Amherst 545-0154
Sexual Identity Awareness Org., Westfield State College, Parenzo Box 197, Westfield 01085
Southwest Women's Center 545-0626
Springfield Gay Alliance 583-3904
Valley Women's Center, Northampton 586-2011

RHODE ISLAND [area code 401]

Alcoholics Together, 290 Westminster St., Rm. 510, Providence 274-4737
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawtucket 02861
Gay Women of Providence 831-5184
Homophile Community Health Service, Providence 274-4737
MCC Coffee House, Providence 274-1693
MCC/Providence, 63 Chapin Ave. 274-1693

VERMONT [area code 802]

Counseling for Gay Women & Men, c/o Vermont Women's Health Center, 158 Bank St., Burlington 05401 863-1386
Gay in Vermont, Box 3216, N. Burlington Sta., Burlington 05401 862-2397
Vermont Gay Women 862-7770, 863-3237
Women's Switchboard 862-5504

CONNECTICUT [area code 203]

East Conn. Gay Alliance, Norwich 889-7530
George W. Henry Foundation, Hartford 522 2646
Gay Alliance at Yale 2031 Yale St., New Haven 06520 436-8945

Hartford Gay Counseling 522-5575, 523-9837
MCC/Hartford 522-5575, 523-9837
Institute of Social Ethics/National Gay Archives, 1 Gold St., Suite 22B, Hartford 06103 547-1281
Kalos/Gay Liberation, Hartford 568-2656
The Church of the Eternal Flame Universal 527-5612
Wesleyan Gay Alliance, c/o Wesleyan Women's Center, Wesleyan Sta., Middletown 06457

NEW HAMPSHIRE [area code 603]

Seacoast Area Gay Alliance, Box 1424, Portsmouth 03801
Women's Group, PO Box 137, Northwood 03261
(Do not use "gay" on any mail to this group)

MAINE [area code 207]

Brunswick Gay Women's Group, 136 Maine St., Brunswick 04011
Gay Rights Organization (GRO), P.O. Box 4542, Portland 04114
Maine Freewomen's Herald, Box 488, Brunswick 04011
Maine Gay Indians, c/o Deanna Francis, Passamaquoddy Library, Pleasant Point 04667
Maine Gay Task Force/MGTF Newsletter, Box 4542, Portland 04144

NEW YORK CITY [area code 212]

Capital Dist. Gay Comm. Council, P.O. Box 131, 332 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12210 (518) 462-6138
Dignity, P.O. Box 1554, N.Y., N.Y. 10022
Gay Activists Alliance, P.O. Box 2, Village Sta. 10014 966-7870
Gay Media Coalition, Box 128 Ansonia Sta. 10023
Gay Men's Health Project, 247 W. 11th St. 691-6969
Gay Switchboard 924-4036
Gay & Women's Alliance for Responsible Media, 370 Lexington Ave., Suite 416, N.Y.C., N.Y.
Lambda Legal Defense and Educ. Fund Inc. 145 E. 52nd St., NY NY 10022 758-1905
Lesbian Feminists Liberation, c/o Women's Center, 243 W. 20th St. 691-5460
Lesbian Switchboard 741-2610
MCC New York 691-7428, 369-8513
National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Ave. Rm 506 741-1010
Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, 15 Christopher St. 255-8097